



The President's Daily Brief

~~Top Secret~~ 16 February 1967



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DAILY BRIEF
16 FEBRUARY 1967

1. Soviet Union

There has as yet been no reaction by Soviet naval or air units to the presence of two US destroyers in the Black Sea. Yesterday, Moscow told the Turks it would be obliged "to use all available means" to deny passage to one of the ships--the USS Hawkins--which is armed with antisubmarine rockets.

The Hawkins and a conventionally armed destroyer passed through the Bosphorus this morning. They are to spend three days in the Black Sea and will stay at least 40 miles from the Russian coast.

2. Vietnam

One of the first documented cases of friction between Viet Cong and North Vietnamese army troops came to light among the papers captured during Operation CEDAR FALLS. The trouble, noted in a Viet Cong report of last November, arose in integrated Viet Cong - North Vietnamese units. The troops retained their regional ties and "did not really unite."

3. North Vietnam

Hanoi is scheduled to import more grains during the first three months of this year than it did during all of 1966. This is an outgrowth of the country's exceptionally poor rice crop last year. The shipments should permit Hanoi to avoid a major food crisis this year.

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4. Communist China

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5. Israel-Syria

The Syrians--badly split among themselves--today cancelled a fourth meeting with the Israelis to discuss border problems. This could well mean that the talks are finished. Border incidents meanwhile have started up again.

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